

To the Federal Communications Commission of the
United States of America:

I have recently learned that Sinclair, one of the largest television conglomerates, has been, and continues to abuse its privilege to broadcast on public airwaves. The abuse includes many instances of 1) requiring broadcasters to make political statements in support of the one-sided agenda of its corporate management, along with 2) forcing affiliates to censor a Nightline broadcast which paid tribute to US troops who had died in Iraq 3) forcing affiliates to pre-empt normal broadcasting to air a political movie which attacks the leading presidential challenger without any coverage of opposing views and 4) systemic gross elimination of local reporters and staff at affiliates and the generation of pseudo-local news at a national headquarters.

Sinclair's actions are an egregious attack on the obligations of public media which are vital to maintaining an independent media which is necessary in every democracy. Sinclair's history of abuse shows why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. Their actions clearly demand that the license renewal process needs to critically evaluate the performance of the affiliates and their owners, and hold the public benefit, not corporate profitability as most important. Thank you.